

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method for managing a database system including one or more database servers,  
2 the method comprising the steps of:  
3 executing, at a console, an integrated management module configured to manage  
4 at least two of the following layers in the database system: a database  
5 application layer, a database server layer, an operating system layer, and a  
6 hardware layer; and  
7 interacting with a user interface provided by said integrated management module  
8 to change operational parameters of said at least two layers.

1 2. The method of Claim 1 wherein:  
2 the database server layer includes one or more database servers;  
3 the operating system layer includes one or more operating systems that reside on  
4 machines that are executing said database servers;  
5 the integrated management module is configured to manage the one or more  
6 database servers and one or more operating systems; and  
7 the step of interacting with the user interface provided by said integrated  
8 management module changes operational parameters of said one or more  
9 database servers and said one or more operating systems.

1 3. The method of Claim 2 wherein:  
2 the system includes one or more database clients;

3           said database clients are executing one or more database applications that  
4                   comprise said database application layer; and  
5           said integrated management module is further configured to manage said one or  
6                   more database applications.

1   4.   The method of Claim 2 wherein:  
2           at least one hardware subsystem is used to execute said one or more database  
3                   servers; and  
4           said integrated management module is further configured to manage said at least  
5                   one hardware subsystem.

1   5.   The method of Claim 4 wherein said at least one hardware subsystem includes a  
2           RAID subsystem managed by said integrated management module.

1   6.   The method of Claim 2 wherein:  
2           said one or more database servers reside on a local network; and  
3           said console does not belong to said local network.

1   7.   The method of Claim 6 wherein the console is connected to a wide area network  
2           and said local network is connected to said wide area network, wherein said  
3           console manages said one or more database servers through messages  
4           communicated through said wide area network.

1 8. The method of Claim 6 wherein the console manages said one or more database  
2 servers by messages sent over a dial up connection established between said  
3 console and said local network.

1 9. The method of Claim 7 wherein said console manages said one or more database  
2 servers and said one or more operating systems by changing metadata stored in a  
3 centralized repository that resides on a device connected to said wide area  
4 network, wherein said metadata includes data that reflects configuration  
5 parameters of said one or more database servers and said one or more operating  
6 systems, wherein changes made to said metadata in said centralized repository are  
7 propagated over said wide area network to devices on said local network.